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**Cc:** [Sanchez, Carlos](#); [Miller, Gary](#); [Foster, Anne](#); [Peycke, Mark](#)  
**Subject:** Heads-up on a San Jacinto issue  
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Carl,

Harris County Pollution Control Division (HCPCD) has been broadly sampling private wells in the San Jacinto area using funds from the settlement with Waste Management. They are analyzing for a broad list of contaminants, including dioxin. We were notified yesterday that PRELIMINARY data from at least four of the wells in the Highlands area have detections of tetra-dioxins above the MCL. We have more questions than answers at this point, but here is what we know.

- Tetra-dioxins are not ubiquitous in the area like octa-dioxins. Octa-dioxins have been previously detected in wells.
- The wells are located in Highlands, about 0.9 miles southeast from the site. One of the wells is reported to be 340 feet deep. We are requesting more definitive information on the wells.
- There are wells between the site and the impacted wells that do not show elevated levels of tetra-dioxin.
- The laboratory had cross-contamination problems, so the results are questionable at this point.
- TCEQ has been notified but has not committed to any actions at this point. At least one of the wells is a source of drinking water.
- The levels of tetra-dioxin found are several orders of magnitude greater than the MCL, and in fact, are much higher than the levels found in the waste pits.

We are continuing to coordinate with the TCEQ and HCPCD on next steps. We are pushing for a re-sampling of the wells, but do not have a firm commitment at this time. Will provide updates as the situation evolves.

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